

State Supreme Court has declared that women do not meet the Constitutional requirements necessary to perform jury duty in our State.

In keeping with the times and in conformance with the wishes of many of our people, I recommend that you submit to the voters of the State, at the next general election, an amendment to the Constitution of our State whereby women in all respects will have this and all other discriminations as now remain in the Constitution removed so that in all respect they may, in fact and in deed, enjoy the privileges accorded to the male, unrestricted by Constitutional inhibition.

A third recent amendment to the Constitution was that for the reorganization of the State Board of Education. By mandate of this amendment "The General Assembly shall divide the State into eight Educational Districts, which may be altered from time to time by the General Assembly." I recommend, therefore, that you give this matter full and careful consideration and by proper enactment provide legislation to divide the State into eight Educational Districts which shall give due consideration to area, population, and such other factors as you find are necessary to provide an equitable distribution of the area of the State within each District.

In connection with this subject, I call to your attention that the Education Amendment, dealing with the State School Board, was ratified by a vote of only twenty-one percent of the total votes cast. In other words, of the nearly eight hundred thousand votes cast in the recent general election, only one hundred, sixty-four thousand were cast for this Amendment. The subject matter of this Amendment deals with one of the most important functions of the State Government, involving the training of approximately nine hundred thousand children per year; the spending of forty million dollars per year. Nearly two-thirds of the voters failed to express an opinion; failed to express an approval or disapproval of the Amendment. I fear that our people did not understand the Amendment and hesitated to vote for or against it. In trying to analyze the thoughts of our people on this subject, I believe there are three factors involved which should be considered:

First, the length of term of office provided in the Amendment. The maximum term of office provided in the Amendment is eight years. I am of the opinion that although our people frequently re-elect people to the same office time and again, yet they do not like to provide a term of office in the executive branch, for a period longer than that of the Governor—namely, four years.

A second consideration is the fact that the shape and size of the Districts which may be set up provide uncertainty in the minds of the voters as to what District they might be in, and although they were disinclined to vote against the Amendment, they hesitated to vote for it.

A third reason seems to be that since no provision was made in the Amendment for fiscal accounting of the funds, they hesitated to en-